

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as indicated hereafter. It is believed that the following amendments and additions add no new matter to the present application.

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph starting on p. 2, line 17 as follows:

In the manufacture of communication cables, it is often desirable to cap the end of the communications cable so as to seal the end and protect the transmission media. Fig. 1 is an example of one conventional end plug ~~20~~ 12 disposed on the end region 22 of a known transmission cable 10. The transmission cable 10 depicted in Fig. 1 is a fiber optic cable 10 known in the art, including ribbons of optical fibers 14 disposed within a core tube 16. Around the core tube 16 is disposed an outer jacket 20 with a plurality of strength members 18 embedded therein. Traditionally, to apply the end plug 12, as known in the art, an operator must prepare the end 22 of the cable 10 by stripping back the jacket 20, any armor (not shown), strength members 18, water blocking tapes (not shown) and core tubes 16; expose approximately six inches of the fiber ribbons 14; clean off any residual filling compound on the ribbons 14; attach a cardboard conical mold (not shown); mix and apply an epoxy or resin-type material to unitize all cable components; and allow the epoxy to harden. This process can take up to 20 minutes per cable to complete, and often during capacity production of a cable 10, this station in the manufacturing process is the bottleneck. Thus, the typical resin or epoxy-type end plug uses a process that is labor- and time-intensive.